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ANTITRUST SUIT AGAINST GOOGLE FOR STIFLING COMPETITION

The US Justice Dept filed a lawsuit on Tuesday alleging Google has been abusing its dominance in online search to stifle competition

REGULATORS WANT TO BREAK UP TECH GIANTS

According to reports, US regulators are keen to break up tech giants to end their monopoly. And Google is their first target. The case is expected to be filed in federal court in Washington, D.C. The suit alleges Google uses billions of dollars collected from advertisers to pay phone makers to ensure Google is the default search engine on browsers | P14

APPLE, AMAZON, FB COULD BE TARGETED

- Most of Google's services are offered for free in exchange for personal information that helps it sell its ads
- Google insists it holds no special power forcing people to use its free services or preventing them from going elsewhere
- Apple, Amazon and Facebook are also on US regulators' radar

90%
OF GLOBAL WEB SEARCHES IS CONTROLLED BY GOOGLE

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Don't be lax as virus is still on the prowl: PM

Urges people not to let their guard down in festival season, says vaccines are on track

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

TAKING a grim view of widespread flouting of Covid-19 protocols such as wearing masks and following social distancing norms, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday cautioned people not to lower their guard against the virus till vaccines are available in the country.

"Work on developing vaccines is going on at a brisk pace and all preparations are being made to make them available to everybody in the country in shortest possible time," the PM said.

Modi said he has come across videos and photographs showing people flouting Covid-19 protocols. He called for responsible behavrour, saying the lockdown has been lifted but the virus is still in the air.

Citing the examples of European countries and the US, the PM highlighted how coronavirus cases have gone up there after a phase of recovery, as a direct fallout of lifting restrictions and resumption of economic activities.

The second wave of Covid-19 has forced some European countries to re-impose restrictions. France, for instance, has imposed night curfew in nine cities while limiting gathering to a maximum of 10 persons at a time. Spain has clamped a state of emergency for 15 days in Madrid.

Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Germany and Italy have all taken restrictive measures to combat the surge in cases.

Plasma therapy to be scrapped

Plasma therapy, may soon be discontinued as a treatment for Covid-19, the Centre said on Tuesday. The decision was taken after finding the therapy doesn't help patients | P9

Modi's address to the nation has come at a time when a large part of the country is celebrating festivals while Bihar and Madhya Pradesh are in poll mode.

Last week, an experts panel had predicted, using a mathematical model, that India is past its peak in Covid-19 cases. The panel also warned of a surge in cases if Covid-19 protocols such as wearing masks and maintaining social distancing in public places are not followed strictly.

Quoting statistics, the PM also said that India has done well in combating the pandemic as the country reported only 5,500 cases per million in contrast to over 25,000 per million in the US, Brazil and other countries. Besides, India reported only 83 per million fatalities against 680 per million in the US, Brazil and other countries, he added.

The Ganesh Nagar area of Old Hubballi was inundated following heavy rain on Tuesday | EXPRESS

CM to assess flood damage today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister B S Yediyruappa will conduct an aerial survey of flood-affected districts of North Karnataka region on Wednesday and also hold meetings with senior officers regarding the situation. The large-scale destruction has prompted some lawmakers and farmers' associations to demand that the government declare the floods as a national calamity.

After reaching Kalaburagi by a special aircraft from Bengaluru around noon on Wednesday, the CM will be holding a meeting with senior officers from Kalaburagi, Bidar and Yadgir districts before embarking on the aerial survey in an Indian Air Force (IAF) helicopter. The three districts have been among the worst-hit by rains and floods.

The CM will also conduct an aerial survey of flood-hit areas in Vijayapura district from 3.30 pm and hold a meeting with senior officers there before returning to Bengaluru. P7

Punjab builds MSP into own farm bills, rejects Central laws

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

PUNJAB on Tuesday became the first state in India to formally reject the Centre's contentious farm laws, with the state Assembly unanimously passing a resolution and three bills against the Central laws.

The three bills are: the Farmers Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Special Provisions and Punjab Amendment Bill; the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services (Special Provisions and Punjab Amendment) Bill; and the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions and Punjab Amendment) Bill.

The first bill says no sale of paddy and wheat in the state will be valid unless paid equal to or above the minimum support price (MSP). The proposed law also calls for a three-year jail term and a fine in case anybody compels a farmer to sell his agricultural produce below MSP.

The second piece of legislation makes it mandatory for those entering into contract farming with farmers to pay the MSP. It also stipulates a three-year jail term to those who violate the Act.

According to the third bill, all powers to fix stock limits of food grains are with the state government and not the Centre. It also envisions imprisonment of three years and a fine for those who force a farmer to sell his agricultural produce below MSP. P10

Rajasthan, too, plans its own farm bill

Jaipur: Hours after the Punjab assembly unanimously passed a resolution and bills against the Centre's farm laws, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Tuesday said his government, too, will bring a similar bill against the central laws

INTERVIEW

'IN-HOUSE PROBE INTO JAGAN'S CHARGES NEEDED'

Andhra CM Jagan Mohan Reddy's allegations against Supreme Court judge N V Ramana has shaken the people's faith in the judiciary. An in-house inquiry must be ordered to look into the charges. P9

JUSTICE A P SHAH
Delhi High Court chief justice (retd)

EXPRESS READ

Bigg Boss contestant lands in NCB net

Bengaluru: Narcotics Control Bureau sleuths on Tuesday arrested 'Bigg Boss Kannada' contestant Adam Pasha under the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, from the City. The special NDPS court has remanded Pasha in NCB custody till October 3. P5

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

POLICE COMMEMORATION DAY

October 21, 2020

Tribute to Police Martyrs

Serving society 24x7, 365 days to Maintain/ Ensure Law & Order, Contain/ Prevent Crime, Monitor/ Regulate Traffic, Resolve Disputes – among other duties.

Commendable Courage and Perseverance during COVID – 19 Pandemic

- Screening of persons with symptoms
- Quarantine, tracing primary/secondary contacts
- Security at border for preventing entry from other states
- Implementing lockdown measures
- Security to medical, para medical, ASHA workers
- Security to COVID Warriors
- Ensuring law & Order in Hot Spots, Containment Zones, Isolation Centres
- Aiding smooth supply of essential items and services

Police Personnel cured of Covid-19 have donated their Plasma and exhibited their humanity

During these testing times the Karnataka Police Department has played a vital role in safeguarding the socio-economic fabric of the society. In the sustained fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, 9209 personnel have been infected of which 7107 have been cured and 2017 personnel are still undergoing treatment.

In this fight against the deadly pandemic 85 Police Officers/Staff have laid down their lives due to COVID Infection. Also 17 personnel have laid down their lives in the line of duty in the last one year.

Today, let us salute the Heroes and offer our tribute to the Martyrs.

Programme

Chief Guest
Sri B.S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Presided by Sri Basavaraj Bommai, Hon'ble Home Minister

Date : 21.10.2020 at 8.00 a.m.

Venue: Martyr's Garden
C.A.R. Headquarters, Mysuru Road, Bengaluru City.

Photography Exhibition

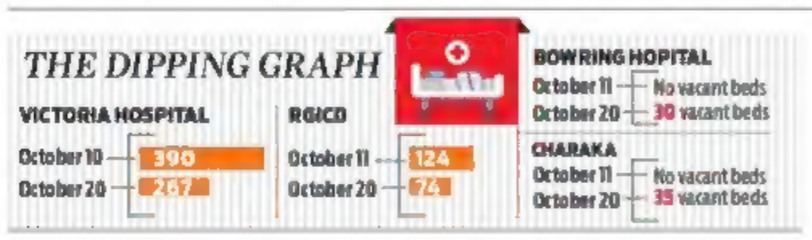
An exhibition of police action during Covid-19 and 'Tributes' to the bravehearts who sacrificed their lives in the fight against COVID-19 has been organized from 22.10.2020 to 25.10.2020 in Bengaluru at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath. Sri Basavaraj Bommai, Hon'ble Home Minister will inaugurate it at 4.00 p.m. on 22.10.2020. All are welcome.

Director General & Inspector General of Police, Karnataka State and All Ranks of Police Officers

"to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so" - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

Wear Mask, Maintain Social distance. Stay, protected from Covid-19. Saluting Corona Warriors.

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations



Covid-19 hospitals in B'luru see admissions dip by 40 pc

CHETANA BELAGERE @ Bengaluru

SINCE October 13, doctors working in designated Covid-19 hospitals in Bengaluru have been letting out a small sigh of relief every day, looking at the dip in the number of patients coming for admission. Figures obtained by TNIE from some of these hospitals show a dip of almost 40 per cent in the inflow of Covid-19 patients.

"It is definitely a relief for us. We have been working day and night to manage the situation. While the case load had lessened of late, due to people with mild symptoms isolating themselves at home, now the dip in numbers has brought us more respite," said a senior doctor from Victoria Hospital who is working with Covid-19 patients.

Confirming this, Dr Jayanti C R, Dean-cum-Director of Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI), which governs Victoria Hospital, one of the main designated institutions for Covid-19 treatment, said, "In the last one week alone, we have seen a dip of about 40 per cent in admissions. We are keeping our fingers crossed and hope that the number doesn't go up after the festival," she said.

At Lady Curzon and Bowring Hospital and the newly inaugurated Charaka hospital too, the number of admissions has reduced by almost 50 per cent, according to Dean-cum-Director Dr Manoj Kumar. "While most of the beds were full last Tuesday, we have a vacancy of about 30 beds at Bowring Hospital as of today, and about 35 beds at Charaka," he pointed out. P3

Doctor who called out no-rape UP spin loses job

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

WAS a temporary doctor at the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College Hospital (JNMCH) in Aligarh denied service extension because of he contradicted the state police's theory in the alleged Hathras gangrape and murder case?

While the UP Police had, on October 1, cited a forensic lab report — that said there was no trace of semen or sperm on the victim's samples — to argue she was not raped, Dr Mohammad Azimuddin Malik had joined issue on October 5, saying the samples were lifted 11 days after her assault and had no evidentiary value. His comments were reported in a section of the media.

Dr Malik was a temporary Casualty Medical Officer at the JNMCH run by the Aligarh Muslim University and his tenure ended on October 10. He had sought extension of service till November 8 since another doctor was on Covid leave till then. But the AMU rejected the request.

Dr Malik could not be contacted for his comments.

Yatnal stokes row on BSY as CM, says time up

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayapura, Bengaluru, Hubballi

NO stranger to controversies, Vijayapura City MLA and former Union Minister of State **Basanagouda Patil Yatnal** kicked up a storm after he claimed that B S Yediyurappa's days as Chief Minister are numbered.

Admitting publicly that his relationship with Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa is already souring, Yatnal, who has made no secret of his displeasure with Yediyurappa, claimed that the central leadership was unhappy with Yediyurappa and he was unlikely to remain in the Chief Minister's seat for long. Yatnal's remarks were met with a host of reactions from party leaders — ranging from retort to subtle warning.

After laying the foundation stone for development works in Vijayapura city on Monday evening, Yatnal claimed, "Yediyurappa's time is up. Soon, he will lose his chair because even the central leadership has had enough with him." Miffed over funds not being allocated to his constituency, Yatnal accused Yediyurappa of withholding grants made by the previous government for development works in Vijayapura. "Funds of Rs 125 crore had come (for constituency), but our own CM took it back. After that, a fight has started between us. Katti (Umesh) rightly pointed out that Yediyurappa behaves like the Chief Minister of Shivamogga, and not of Karnataka," he carped.

Continuing his attack, Yatnal claimed that Yediyurappa's successor will be from North Karnataka. P6